



JPW

PATENT  
8017-1098

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Michihisa FURUKAWA Confirmation: 2117  
Serial No.: 10/647,311 Art Unit: 3627  
Filed: August 26, 2003 Examiner: L. Champagne  
For: METHOD OF BUYING BACK GOODS THAT BOTH IMPROVES  
EFFICIENCY AND EASES THE BURDEN ON USERS

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

December 13, 2006

Sir:

In compliance with Rules 1.97 and 1.98, and in fulfillment of the duty of disclosure under Rule 1.56, included with the attached Form PTO-1449 is an Office Action issued September 13, 2006, in the corresponding Japanese application, together with an English language translation of the relevant portions of the Japanese Office Action and a copy of the cited reference, JP 2002-024331. The translation of the relevant sections of the Office Action, together with the accompanying English language abstract of JP '331, satisfies the requirement for a concise explanation of the relevance of the document.

Under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e), the undersigned hereby certifies that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement. The Examiner is courteously requested to initial and return a copy of the Form PTO-1449 to confirm consideration and entry into the record of the listed document.

Respectfully submitted,

**YOUNG & THOMPSON**

BY:

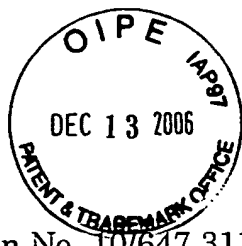
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FURUKAWA

U. S. Application No. 10/647,311

Our Ref. 8017-1098

Record (See the Reference Citation List to obtain the citation)

Claims 1-46

Citation 1

Remarks:

The invention of the present application and invention recorded in the below listed Citation 1 primarily differ in the point that, relative to the fact that the invention of the present application accomplishes a product purchase request through a sales center, with the invention recorded in Citation 1 it is handled through a collection center.

An examination is made concerning these points of difference.

Whether to accomplish a purchase request and subsequent transactions simultaneously, or to handle them at different times could be appropriately determined by one skilled in the art with due consideration to business circumstances.

This being the case, with the invention recorded in Citation 1, in lieu of simultaneously handling product purchase requests along with subsequent transaction requests, the product purchase requests and subsequent handling requests are handled separately, and since the product purchase request may be addressed to either a sales center or a recovery center, composing the invention of the present application by adopting the former could be easily accomplished by one skilled in the art.

As a procedure for determining subscription qualifications for a lottery campaign or the like, since the use of product order numbers and individual information is already known, there is nothing exceptional to the use of known procedures to accomplish individual verification.

In the event that further reasons for rejection are discovered in the future, you will be notified of such reasons.

Reference Citation List

1. Japanese Unexamined Patent Application 2002-24331

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Record of the Examination Results relating to Documents of the Prior Art

· Examined Technical Field:   IPC 8th Edition

G06Q 30/00, 50/00  
DB name(insert)

Documents of the Prior Art

The record of the examination results relating to documents of the prior art  
does not constitute the grounds for rejection.